

National Alliance of the United States, for hosting this celebration of success in sports and academics. The effort of all those involved in planning this worthwhile event is indicative of their devotion to the very gifted young people in Indiana's First Congressional District.

#### REGULATING BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

#### HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, over two months ago, the Federal Communications Commission adopted an order that will change the way it regulates broadband infrastructure. Under the old FCC rules, broadband provided by cable and satellite is essentially unregulated, but broadband provided by telephone companies is regulated like voice telephone service.

The FCC saw that this created regulatory winners and losers and decided in February to change some of its broadband rules and move in the direction of parity for broadband. The FCC's action was the first step in the process of putting telephone company-provided DSL service on the same regulatory footing as cable provided high-speed Internet service. While, in the same proceeding, the FCC failed to remove its burdensome and economically devastating rules on the unbundled network element platform (UNE-P), at least they started to move broadband regulation in the right direction. This will be a much-needed change in broadband regulatory policy, and I applaud the FCC for this aspect of its ruling.

Today, cable has more than two-thirds of the residential broadband market. To the consumer, the two services are fungible, but cable still dominates. Regulatory parity between DSL and cable modem service will result in more head-to-head competition between the two, creating better prices and new, innovative services. It will be a win-win for the consumer. The FCC should end its internal bickering and issue the text of the rules it adopted in February so the FCC can continue on the path to regulatory parity. Only then will our citizens realize the benefits of a fully-competitive broadband Internet market.

#### COMMENDING THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE DEBRIS COLLECTION EFFORT FOLLOWING THE SPACE SHUTTLE "COLUMBIA" ACCIDENT

SPEECH OF

#### HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 2003

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 222. This resolution commends those individuals who contributed to the debris collection efforts following the Space Shuttle *Columbia* accident.

On the early morning of Saturday, February 1, 2003, just after 9:00 a.m. a tragedy struck our nation. For the second time in 17 years we lost the crew of a Space Shuttle. This time

it was the Space Shuttle *Columbia*, the oldest of America's four space planes.

On board was a crew of seven courageous astronauts—six Americans: Colonel Douglas Husband, Commander William C. McCool, Astronaut Kaplana Chawla, Captain David M. Brown, Lieutenant Colonel Michael P. Anderson, Captain Laurel Blair Salton Clark, MD, and one Israeli: Colonel Ilan Ramon.

The seven astronauts accepted this mission knowing the potential danger they faced. Despite the danger, they risked their lives and made the ultimate sacrifice in their dedicated efforts to advance our nation's space program. Each of these astronauts will be remembered as a pioneer and a hero.

More heroes emerged in the days and weeks following the Space Shuttle *Columbia* accident. These heroes collected the debris and wreckage from the Space Shuttle *Columbia*. Among the debris collectors were National Guard Civil Support Teams from Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, trained to handle the aftermath of terrorist attacks. Their training made them ideal experts for protecting the public from the toxic shuttle fuels. Also helping with the collection were Department of Public safety troopers, the National Forest Service, forest fire crews, and other law enforcement agency personnel.

As impressive as the efforts of public agents was the self-sacrifice of the over 1,500 volunteers who helped with the search for debris. The volunteers are residents of Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Texas. They hiked over and through thickets, briers, forests, marshes, muddy hillsides, creeks, and barbed-wire fences for over a week looking for debris. The volunteers braved near-freezing temperatures, gusting winds, sleet, and rain. They included teachers, NASA engineers, store-owners, and housewives.

Brian Carpenter, a volunteer from Warren, Texas described his experience, and why he joined the search efforts. "It's cold out here," he said, "but knowing that the day will come when the astronaut's families will be able to smile and think about their loved ones with pride and without grieving, there's warmth in that."

Tracy Jones of Orange, Texas said, "We want to give the families peace of mind. That's the only reason we're out here."

Mr. Speaker, I support H. Res. 222 to commend Brian Carpenter, Tracy Jones and all of the generous volunteers who helped to collect the Space Shuttle *Columbia* debris. I also support H. Res. 222 to commend the members of the National Guard Civil Support Teams from Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, the Department of Public safety troopers, the National Forest Service, forest fire crews, and the other law enforcement agency personnel who sacrificed their time to collect the debris and bring a sense of needed closure to the grieving families of the astronauts. I commend everyone who helped with the debris collection efforts. They too are heroes.

#### HONORING THE 13TH ANNUAL DC BLACK PRIDE CELEBRATION AND EARL D. FOWLKES

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, this Memorial Day weekend, May 23–26, is the 13th Annual DC Black Pride Celebration in Washington, DC.

DC Black Pride is an exciting 4-day event complete with dynamic workshops, receptions, cultural arts activities, small and large nightclub events culminating with the world's largest Black Pride Festival at Washington's new Convention Center. It is considered one of the preeminent Black Pride celebrations in the world, consistently drawing 30,000 people to the nation's capital. Attendees come from every major urban area in the United States as well as from Canada, England, France, Germany, the Netherlands and South Africa. The Black Pride Festival features activities for the entire family including performances from national recording artists, 200 exhibition booths, book signings from noted writers, participation from national and local health organizations, and arts and crafts.

The event is coordinated by Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day, Inc. (BLGPD), a nonprofit organization with a volunteer Board of Directors: Earline Budd, Cheryl Dunn, Clarence J. Fluker, Eric Richardson, Members-At-Large; Toni Collins, Secretary; Ronnie Foster, Vice-President; Robert Jones, Treasurer; and Earl D. Fowlkes, President. BLGPD's mission is to build awareness of and pride in the diversity of the Black lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community as well as to create a funding source and support for organizations that are addressing HIV/AIDS and other health issues adversely affecting our community.

Mr. Fowlkes has been President of Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day, Inc. since 1997. In addition to his duties with BLGPD, Mr. Fowlkes is the Executive Director of Damien Ministries, Inc., a faith-based HIV/AIDS service organization in Washington, DC, and he sits on the boards of Siloam Ministries, Prevention Works, the DC Black AIDS Network, Project Ujima, International Federation of Black Prides and DC HIV Prevention Community Planning Committee. Mr. Fowlkes is retiring as President of BLGPD to devote more of his energies to the International Federation of Black Prides of which he is also President.

I ask the House to join me in welcoming all attending the 13th Annual DC Black Pride celebration in Washington, DC, and I take this opportunity to remind the attendees that United States citizens who reside in Washington, DC are taxed without full voting representation in Congress.

#### TONY SIANO, "KIWANIAN OF THE YEAR"

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Tony Siano, whose commitment to